



SWARC NEWS-04/24

Notes from KO4ZFO (Rodney)

Thank you all for coming out for our annual SKYWARN Spotter Training. We had an awesome turnout this month. Please don't forget that elections will be coming up in June. If you would like to volunteer for the elections committee, or volunteer for a position, please let me know. We also have Summer Field Day at the end of June; at next month's meeting we will finalize those details.

Please remember our fellow members who are dealing with various medical situations. I am sure they will be listed later in the newsletter, but please reach out to these members. Even just a phone call can brighten their day and give them the encouragement through their recovery.

Thanks again,
Rodney
KO4ZFO

Apparently, the Legion cannot make up their mind on our meeting place, so be sure to pay attention to location given in Sign Up Genius invitation when it is sent out.

We ask you to keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Gary, KO4LQX, Kenny, KJ4CVK, Steve, KA0GMY, Bernie Jones (N4BAJ), Al Kinnamon, WA3JJG, and the family of Danny Hampton, K4ITL (SK).



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Steve, KA0GMY, continues to have health issues, but he has been out and about recently.

Gary Plante, KO4LQX, reports: 'I got my labs, ENT surgeons scoping visit, oncologist visit and treatment a couple weeks ago and while my oncologist was confirming my scans, she told me that there were no signs of cancer in my body.

I'm very pleased with that but I'm also told that cancer is very smart and at any time the cancer can come back or it can be absent for a number of years. If it does come back, I'm told that they can give me a few more rounds of chemo and then the immunotherapy should kick in and help again. I guess that is at least an option.

Also, on another good note my coughing and breathing issues have been much better and I have been doing a lot more activities in the yard and around the house. I have gained about thirty pounds from my lowest point and all the weight is going back to muscle which I'm told would happen because that is what the loss was from and that is what helped me survive all I've been through. So, I guess I can say that this is the best I have felt in a long time.

Unfortunately, last week I fought a cold and it really messed up my throat but I am recouping from that now.' He really needs our prayer support for his continued health battles (report from Richard Hall).

Kenny (KJ4CVK), has ongoing health issues, so keep him in your thoughts. Consider reaching out to him to give him a boost in his spirits.



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Bernie (N4BAJ) has been fighting a cold or flu for many weeks and reportedly is finally starting to feel better, although he has not checked in to evening nets.

Al Kinnamon (WA3JJG) has several discs in his back that will be fused, etc., once his surgeon gives him a date for the procedure.

Notes from WB4SMS (Steve)

SWARC Members,

Thank you all for the great turn out for our April meeting of the SKYWARN refresher training. This was the highest attended in person meeting since I have been a member. It was great to see everyone.

Next month is our Spring Picnic so there is no formal program. We do have some business items to cover though. Elections are upcoming. If you are interested in a position, please let us know. Field day is quickly approaching. Rodney has a schedule written up for us. Sign-ups begin in May for time slots in our radio room.

Rodney and I are also working on a schedule for the day so we can get invitations out to the general public and still do our family picnic. Speaking of food, if you have a suggestion, other than hot dogs and hamburgers, please let us know.

73,
Steve WB4SMS



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SWARC 3 April 2024 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was very well attended and there was food for everyone!

Those in physical attendance were:

Bill Blomgren (KK4QDZ), Al Crawford (WA4TCJ), Rich Gehle (KZ4ET-- formerly N4DPQ) and wife Jane, Brian Knox (KK4BK) and wife Janet, Ken Castille (KN4GUS), Robert Walker (KQ4GSA), Michael Carter (KY4OA), Steve Worth (NC4SW), Phil Warnick (KQ4MSQ), Dave Yow (K4MSE), Ron Cooney (K4AAA), Mike Gaither (KW4MG), Dave Krum (NW3U), Don Nicholson (KN4OEY), Paul Nicholson (KN4NGI), Michael Nye (KG5AWR), Charley Bratton (KE4QBW), and rejoining members Mike Callam (KD4MC) and Dianne Young (KE4VNX). Our only guest was the program presenter, Virginia Enzor (NC4VA).

The meeting was opened at 7:00 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Steve Suzanne (WB4SMS) and introductions were made around the room.

Old/Unfinished Business

President Rodney (KO4ZFO) reminded everyone about Field Day—note that it is on 22-23 June and not the last weekend of the month.

Brian (KK4BK) reminded us of upcoming officer and board elections and to consider volunteering for one of the positions or nominating someone else for the job(s).



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New Business

Rodney (KO4ZFO) asked members to provide their phone numbers so that we can more easily reach out and keep up with needs of our members. Send phone numbers to Richard (K7RLH) at k7rlh@hotmail.com. Only three of you have responded to this request to date!

Program/Presentation

Virginia Enzor (NC4VA) was our guest speaker and she conducted the annual SKYWARN Spotter Training/refresher course.

Public Service

Dave Krum (NW3U) was present; he recently sent a reminder to sign up for events at the website listed below.

Check the HPSNC.org web site often for Public Service opportunities. The public service season is upon us and events need volunteers. You may also get to public service events on the RARS and SWARC websites.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Christy Fernandini's report detailed \$125.00 cash addition with no deductions. Balance of \$1,923.74 with no obligated funds or invoices outstanding.



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The meeting was officially adjourned around 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Hall K7RLH (In absentia)
Secretary and Newsletter Editor

MEMBERSHIP

You can bring a check or cash for dues to the next meeting or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will advise she has received them. Also, you can now renew somewhat online by contacting Christy and giving her the appropriate credit card info for the 'Square' account. Christy's email is christyfernandini@outlook.com. Make checks payable to South Wake ARC and send to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

NET REPORT

SWARC Group – March 2024

The monthly total of check-ins was 283—a small downturn from last month! Note that **not** all net controls record their counts so numbers could actually be higher than recorded.

- Saturday and Sunday evenings will be called by KT4JR & K7RLH



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- KO4ZFO will call Monday evenings
- KN4OEY will call Tuesday evenings
- KK4BK will call Wednesday evenings except on meeting nights
- KO4ZFO or a board member will call Thursday evenings
- Fridays will continue to be called by NC4MP
- And we need backups – JUST BECAUSE.

Please contact Rodney Warren (KO4ZFO) or Don Nicholson (KN4OEY), if you are interested in calling one or more nets.

SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of its members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service. Refer to the SWARC web site for the Board of Directors/Officers and Appointed Positions.

LINKS (if you have other links you want added then send them to me)

PRN

A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network

www.ncprn.net



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GigaParts

www.gigaparts.com

QRZ

www.qrz.com

Ham Radio Outlet HRO

www.hamradio.com

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS

www.rars.org

Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS

www.jars.net

South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC

www.southwakearc.com

Carolina 440 Network

www.carolina440.net

North Carolina Packet

www.ncpacket.com

TARPN (Terrestrial Amateur Packet Radio Net)

www.tarpn.net

Useful Ham Info

www.torborg.com/a

Five County Ham Radio Enthusiasts

www.fivecountyhre.org

On the Air

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ARRL Audio News

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday. ARRL Audio News is a summary of the week's top news stories in the world of amateur radio and ARRL, along with interviews and other features.

The On the Air podcast and ARRL Audio News are available on blubrry, iTunes, and Apple Podcasts -- [On the Air](#) | [ARRL Audio News](#).





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Announcements

ARRL Resumes Accepting Life Membership Applications. ARRL is again accepting new applications for Life Membership. Applications for Life Membership were paused last year, pending the approval of an adjusted, revenue-neutral program. Life Membership rates have now been established based on the current term dues amount and the applicant's age (requires verification). Payment can be made in full, or paid in 24 - monthly installments by credit card. ARRL Life Membership includes the benefits of membership for life. Print magazine subscriptions are sold separately. Visit the ARRL website for a complete list of [dues rates](#). Life Membership can be purchased at www.arrl.org/join (current members should login to the ARRL website first).

The [National Trail Amateur Radio Club](#) (NTARC) will participate in a special event to commemorate the death of former U.S. President Abraham Lincoln on April 12 - 15, 2024. Special event call sign W9L will be in operation from 0001Z - 2359Z on 20 - and - 40 meters SSB, each day of the event. The club will operate from a recreated log cabin at the Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site, an 86-acre history park located eight miles south of Charleston, Illinois. The cabin is where Lincoln's father and stepmother once lived, and Lincoln often visited the site. President Lincoln died on April 15, 1865, one day after being shot by John Wilkes Booth. A QSL card will be available from NTARC/K9UXZ, P.O. Box 903, Effingham, IL 62401.

In Brief...

The Annual 13 Colonies Special Event organizers are looking for amateur radio



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volunteers. The event honors the 13 original British colonies that rebelled against Great Britain and founded the United States of America in July 1776. The event will use all amateur radio frequencies and modes, and it runs from July 1 to 7, 2024. During this time, there will be special event stations on the air corresponding to each of the 13 colonies, in addition to two bonus stations with 1 x 1 call signs. Volunteers will need to be available to work for several hours on each of the seven days, and they will need to maintain a log using a computer. The deadline for volunteer applications is May 1, 2024. All applications should be emailed to Larry Krainson, W1AST, at wb1dbv@gmail.com. Anyone participating in the event can receive a certificate by working any of the 13 colony stations, and a clean sweep certificate will be available for those who work all 15 stations. In 2023, the Massachusetts station, K2H, made 19,209 contacts. For more information, visit the [13 Colonies](#) Special Event website.

The advertisement features a dark blue background. On the left, a white diamond-shaped logo contains the text "A R R" and "R". To its right, the text "GET RADIO ACTIVE WITH AN END-FED HALF-WAVE ANTENNA KIT!" is displayed in yellow and white. In the center, a circular inset shows various electronic components like capacitors and resistors. On the right, a photograph shows three people (two men and one woman) working on a project at a table. In the bottom right corner, there is an image of the antenna kit's components, including a coil and a matching network, housed in a green plastic case.



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The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, of Seattle, Washington, reports for this week's ARRL Propagation Bulletin, ARLP0014:

With the big increase in sunspot numbers and solar flux reported in last week's bulletin, I hoped the trend would continue. But, the numbers this week were lower.

Five new sunspot groups emerged: one each day from March 30 through April 3.

Average daily sunspot numbers went from 147 to 60, and average daily solar flux declined from 191.9 to 136.9.

Geomagnetic numbers were much quieter. Average daily planetary A index softened to 7.6 from 25.4.

Predicted solar flux is 112 and 114 on April 4 - 5; 115 on April 6 - 8; 120 on April 9 - 10; 140 on April 11 - 13; 150 on April 14 - 16; 160 on April 17 - 18; 170 on April 19 - 24; 160, 150, and 140 on April 25 - 27, and 130 on April 28 through May 4.

The predicted flux values for this week are much lower than in last week's forecast for the same period.

Predicted planetary A index is 18 on April 4 - 5; 8, 5, and 5 on April 6 - 8; 8 on April 9 - 11; 5 on April 12 - 18; 8 and 10 on April 19 - 20; 8 on April 21 - 23; 5 on April 24 - 26; 10 on April 27 - 28; 8 on April 29, and 12 on April 30 through May 2.



This solar disk image was taken on April 4, 2024. [Photo courtesy of NASA SDO/HMI]



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Watch footage of a long-duration flare at <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x8w8vig>.

Chip Sufitchi, N2YO, sent this email last week:

"Thanks for your excellent ARRL propagation bulletins! I also [have been] running a weekly propagation bulletin for more than 20 years (in the Romanian language). The bulletin is available on the web, distributed online by email, and read during the "Info DX" QTC on 80 meters each Thursday in Romania. All bulletins are available here: <https://www.radioamator.ro/misc/buletinepropagare.php>. On the first of each month, I update a page of propagation charts in certain directions centered on Romania (YO) at

https://www.radioamator.ro/misc/grafice_propagare.php. I also run a YO DX cluster, which is powered by a DXSpider server and hosted by a Raspberry Pi in my basement. They feed the web page at <https://www.radioamator.ro/yocluster/>. In fact, I run the whole [radioamator.ro](https://www.radioamator.ro) website, which is the most popular YO ham radio resource on the internet. This year, the website will have its 20th anniversary."

See a recent video from Space Weather Woman Dr. Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW, at <https://youtu.be/yKNB1YRX7kg>.

Sunspot numbers for March 28 through April 3, 2024, were 101, 79, 60, 50, 50, 35, and 45, with a mean of 60. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 172.7, 167.3, 139.6, 133.6, 120.4, 112.8, and 111.7, with a mean of 136.9. Estimated planetary A indices were 7, 6, 5, 9, 11, 8, and 7, with a mean of 7.6. Middle latitude A index was 6, 4, 4, 8, 9, 7, and 10, with a mean of 6.9.

Send your tips, questions, or comments to k7ra@arrl.net.

A comprehensive K7RA Solar Update is posted Fridays on the ARRL website. For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, [read](#) "What the Numbers Mean...", and [check out](#) the Propagation Page of Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. For customizable propagation charts, visit the [VOACAP Online for Ham Radio](#) website.

[Share](#) your reports and observations.

A weekly, full report is posted on [ARRL News](#).

Just Ahead in Radiosport

- April 9 -- DARC RTTY Sprint (digital)



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Visit the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more events and information.

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COMET

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Upcoming Section, State, and Division Conventions

- April 12 - 13 | [Green Country Hamfest 2024](#), hosting the ARRL Oklahoma State Convention, Claremore, Oklahoma
- April 20 | [Delmarva Amateur Radio and Electronics Expo](#), hosting the ARRL Delaware State Convention, Georgetown, Delaware
- May 11 | [ARRL Nebraska State Convention](#), Lincoln, Nebraska
- May 17 - 19 | [Dayton Hamvention](#), hosting the ARRL National Convention, Xenia, Ohio
- May 31 - June 2 | [SEA-PAC](#), hosting the ARRL Northwestern Division Convention, Seaside, Oregon
- June 1 | [Atlanta Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Georgia Section Convention, Marietta, Georgia
- June 9 | [BreezeShooters Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention, Butler, Pennsylvania
- June 15 | [ARRL Maine State Convention & Hamfest](#), Augusta, Maine
- June 15 | [Knoxville Hamfest and Electronics Convention](#), sponsoring the ARRL Delta Division Convention, Knoxville, Tennessee



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Search the [ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database](#) to find events in your area.

Have News for ARRL?

Submissions for the ARRL Letter and ARRL News can be sent to news@arrl.org. --
John E. Ross, KD8IDJ, ARRL News [Editor](#)

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- Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday.
- *The ARRL Letter* is available in an accessible format, posted weekly to the [Blind-hams Groups.io](#) email group. The group is dedicated to discussions about amateur radio as it concerns blind hams, plus related topics including ham radio use of adaptive technology.
- [NCJ -- National Contest Journal](#). Published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint, and QSO parties.
- [QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters](#). Published bimonthly, features technical articles, construction projects, columns, and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.



Free of charge to ARRL members...

- [Subscribe](#) to the *ARES Letter* (monthly public service and emergency



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communications news), the *ARRL Contest Update* (biweekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts, and much more!

- Find ARRL on [Facebook](#)! Follow us on [Threads](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#)

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video A Dark Coronal Hole, A Total Solar Eclipse, and a Parting Shot | Space Weather News 02 April 2024

